

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 15th May 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Monthly.				
1	"Bhārat Shramajīvi"	Calcutta ...	2,100	3rd May 1880.
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	175	
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong ...	600	
Fortnightly.				
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	31
5	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Rajshahye ...	31	
Weekly.				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta ...	700	4th ditto.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	7th ditto.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	671	4th ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	4th ditto.
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Bardwān ...	296	
11	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	9th ditto.
12	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	7th ditto.
13	"Hindu Hitaishini"	Dacca ...	300	5th ditto.
14	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	
15	"Howrah Hitakari"	Bethar, Howrah ...	400	5th and 12th May 1880.
16	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	250	
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore ...	.....	10th May 1880.
18	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	
19	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	6th ditto.
20	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākiniā, Rangpore ...	250	
21	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	9th ditto.
22	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	10th ditto.
23	"Samālochak"	Ditto ...	1,000	10th ditto.
24	"Samāchār Sār"	Allahabad ...	350	
25	"Sanjivani"	Mymensingh ...	260	10th ditto.
26	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta ...	.....
27	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Ditto ...	4,000	8th ditto.
28	"Shārad Kaumudī"	Bhowanipore ...	300	3rd ditto.
29	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	
30	"Tripurā Vartāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....	17th and 24th April, and 1st and 8th May 1880.
Tri-weekly.				
31	"Samāchār Sudhāvarshan"	Calcutta ...	.....
Daily.				
32	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	700	6th to 11th May 1880.
33	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	7th to 14th ditto.
34	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	8th to 13th ditto.
35	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	6th to 10th ditto.
36	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	.....
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
37	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
Weekly.				
38	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	8th May 1880.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
39	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	6th ditto.
40	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	6th ditto.
41	"Jagat Mitra"	Ditto ...	157	5th ditto.
42	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	200	10th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
43	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto ...	250	7th ditto.

POLITICAL.

BHARAT MIHIR,
May 4th, 1880.

THE following observations are extracted from the opening editorial of the *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 4th May :—Our expectations have been fulfilled, and it is now

The new ministry.

time to express our joy. We ardently desired the overthrow of the Beaconsfield ministry, and we have gained our desire. Of course, the miseries inflicted on this country during the last six years have not been removed, still we rejoice to witness the defeat of the Conservative administration. At this time we do not wish to make any confident forecast as to the future, for such forecasts have often deceived us before. The Royal Proclamation of 1858 and the sound of the drum on the occasion of the Delhi Durbar produced great exultation, but the Proclamation, as well as the sound of the drum, were soon found to be an empty affair : there came no relief to India. We have no wish to mar our rising joy by indulging in any gloomy retrospect ; now let us be glad when the hour of rejoicing has come. There is time enough for weeping. We are glad that the Liberals have triumphed, and that Mr. Gladstone has been victorious. They have not indeed yet repaired any of our wrongs ; still the mere fact of their coming to power has brought relief to our wounded hearts and inspired us with hopes.

The new Parliament and the new Cabinet have a feature about them which is altogether novel. There have been changes of ministries before this, victories of Liberals and defeats of Conservatives ; but the excitement and the exultation which the late elections caused all over the country have not hitherto had any parallel. As regards India, it may be said that never before this were the people so perfectly of one mind. We have now some hope that national unity may be possible in India. From the new Cabinet, and from Mr. Gladstone in particular, we expect much, and a heavy responsibility rests upon them. They have so severely commented on the policy of their predecessors that, if they now laid themselves open to the charge of following a similar policy, they would reap fourfold indignation. We admit that it is not possible to rectify in one day the wrongs wrought by the Beaconsfield ministry, nor is the present Cabinet prepared to do so. But any approach towards the policy followed by their predecessors would change the national joy into a feeling of indignation. In conclusion, the people of India are warned that they should not form very high hopes in consequence of the ascendancy of the Liberals. They must reckon upon the possibility of disappointment.

BHARAT MIHIR.

2. The same paper remarks that, by waiving his claim to the premiership in favour of Mr. Gladstone, the Marquis of Hartington has raised his already illustrious position. The whole English nation has approved of his conduct. "We, too, send him our respectful congratulations from this distant land. He has been appointed the Secretary of State for India ; we hope that his name will be associated in our minds in a different manner from that in which Lord Cranbrook's was associated. The Secretary of State is, so to speak, our earthly providence, and we expect much from Lord Hartington. Will not his liberal nature inspire with courage our craven-hearted countrymen ? Will not any one teach us that independence and manliness which have long forsaken us ? These are high aspirations : and we are even prepared to give them up, if England should lack generosity and consider them too high. Even if all other privileges were denied us, we would still ask the new Secretary of State to grant us freedom of speech, and further do something for us which might enable us to earn our livelihood. He should first direct his attention to the condition of the finances. The cost of the Afghan War, the subject of direct taxation, and of the cotton-duties, all need his consideration. He should endeavour to improve the state of the

finances, but not by harassing the people. The termination of hostilities in Afghanistan will bring relief to the Exchequer and peace to the Empire. This result will be possible only when the British army returns to India."

3. The same paper remarks in another article that, to put an end to the difficulties which have manifested themselves in Afghanistan, a reversal of Lord

The Afghan war.

Lytton's policy will become necessary; and it should give place to one which would recognize the importance of having Afghanistan maintained as a powerful barrier between the Russian and British territories.

4. It is remarked by the *Medini* that the Afghan War, which has brought so much disgrace on the British Government, has been from the beginning a series of blunders.

The Afghan war.

In the first place, it was a grave error and a proceeding extremely arbitrary to make war upon an independent Prince for a trifling cause: the treaty with Yakub Khan, a weak and imbecile chief, was another. The deputation of Major Cavagnari to Cabul surrounded by a handful of troops, and among a treacherous people, was the next blunder in the series. The arrest and confinement of Yakub Khan, the hangings in Cabul, and all the subsequent proceedings of Government in that country have been the outcome of a want of judgment.

5. The same paper, in a long article, endeavours to show that the people of India did not, under Mahomedan rule, lose their power of self-government. Although

India and the Liberals.

there was considerable anarchy, bloodshed, and misgovernment, the Mahomedan conquest succeeded in touching only the upper strata of native society. The village communities, however, retained their independence, and there was some degree of self-government enjoyed by the people. All this has changed with the advent of the British. The courts of justice now regulate social matters as well as adjudicate the rights of individuals. The village punchayets have mostly ceased to exist, and the people have almost lost the power of self-government. Now that the Liberals have returned to power, it behoves them to revive the indigenous institution of the punchayet. It is a cheap and efficient method for raising the political status of the natives of this country.

6. The accession to power of the Liberals and of Mr. Gladstone at their head, remarks the *Som Prakash*, has produced high hopes in the minds of many

The embarrassments of the new ministry.

oppressed nations who eagerly expect that brighter days will now dawn upon them. Mr. Gladstone has received congratulatory messages from the peoples of Athens, Montenegro, and Servia; and the young men in this country are almost mad with joy. *Brahmo Public Opinion* came out the other day in red to express its joy at Mr. Gladstone's victory. The new ministry and the Premier in particular are therefore placed in a peculiarly difficult position, and will have to undergo many trials. It is doubtful whether they will succeed in all cases. The Cabul question will prove to be of greater difficulty than the rest. Government in Cabul occupy much the same position as that of a snake which has got a mole in its throat. If they were now to return from that country, they would be charged with a want of political discernment. This, however, would be better than humiliation. If, on the other hand, Cabul were placed under the direct rule of the British Government, it would prove disastrous both to the people and the rulers. There would be little likelihood of the untamed inhabitants of Afghanistan readily yielding to the new power, while there would be no knowing how much blood would have to be shed before they were completely subjugated. The nature of the country would render the task of subjugation peculiarly difficult; nor would the spectacle of the civilized

SHARAT MINIR,
May 4th, 1880.

MEDINI,
April 5th, 1880.

MEDINI.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 10th, 1880.

British Government engaged in perennial marches and countermarches through Afghanistan with the object of exterminating its people be other than humiliating. It therefore behoves Mr. Gladstone to endeavour to solve this Afghan question before all other matters. This course is necessary, not merely in the interests of humanity, but also on financial grounds. The costs of the Afghan War have become a heavy charge on Indian revenues. Mr. Gladstone will not, however, find it equally difficult to fulfil the expectations formed by young Bengal at his return to office. They ask that, in the distribution of public patronage, the rulers should not as now make any invidious distinctions. Will not the Premier have courage to raise the natives of the country to high positions in the public service equally with Europeans? The people ask him to grant them an impartial administration of justice. It is now more than a century and a quarter since British rule was established in this land. Still in dispensing justice the natives are not accorded an equal treatment with Europeans. Take, for instance, the case of the Calcutta Small Cause Court where suits in which natives are parties are not taken up before those in which Europeans are interested. The natives of the country ask Mr. Gladstone to do away with injustice in the matter of taxation. Taxes, such as the license-tax, are imposed, which press heavily on the poor, but do not touch the pockets of the well-to-do. While the license-tax was imposed, the cotton-duties were remitted. There is the same invidious distinction made in the work of legislation. Thus, although the vernacular and the English newspapers published in India do the same work and possess much the same characteristics, the former only have been put under the operation of Act IX of 1878. These are all old complaints, but are now repeated to attract the attention of Mr. Gladstone. To the article is annexed a letter in which the writer sets forth what the natives of Bengal ask the present ministry to do for them. They ask for the repeal of Act IX of 1878; secondly, for the return of the British army from Afghanistan; thirdly, for the repeal of the license-tax; fourthly, for facilitating the admission of natives into the Covenanted Civil Service by the enhancement of the limit of age of the candidates; fifthly, for paying the costs of the Afghan War from the English Exchequer; sixthly, for the disestablishment of the State Church in India; and seventhly, for the re-imposition of the cotton-duties. India expects much from the Liberals who, as a party, are guided in their actions by moral principles, but one finds a difficulty in believing that they will be able to do all that is expected of them by the natives of this country. They have indeed protested, and strongly too, against the public measures of their predecessors, but have not committed themselves to a reversal of those measures. On the other hand, both Lord Hartington and Mr. Gladstone have expressed themselves in favour of non-interference with the acts of the late ministry. The only hope is that the new Cabinet is composed of men of liberal and broad sympathies, who will not consciously do any wrong. It is, however, to be doubted whether they will have sufficient leisure to devote to Indian affairs. There are pressing domestic measures which will require their attention. There is besides strong difference of opinion on certain matters among the members.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 10th, 1880.

7. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 10th May, contains a long article headed "How long will the war continue in Afghanistan?"

The substance may be thus stated. Although the Liberals have condemned the policy of their predecessors in regard to Afghanistan, affairs have now come to such a pass that it will not be easy for them to restore order in that country while consistently following their own views. There is, however, reason to hope that they will not do anything unjust or immoral. The disintegration of Afghanistan, which has now been accomplished by the

separation of Candahar from Cabul, will but facilitate the designs of Russia, to frustrate which the war was ostensibly declared. The work of consolidation, which was going on under Dost Mahomed and Shere Ali, has been destroyed by Lord Lytton's action. Regarding the selection of an Ameer, the Editor advises Government to release Yakub Khan from confinement, and instal him on the throne of Cabul; no other person will receive such support from the Afghans as he. It is a mistake to suppose that he is incompetent. The fact is Lord Lytton's weakness has been transferred to his shoulders. Government should further give up all idea of placing a British Resident in Afghanistan. The Afghans are extremely opposed to it.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

8. The following observations are taken from an editorial in the *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 4th May :—Lord Lytton is about

BHARAT MIHIR,
May 4th, 1880.

Lord Lytton.

to lay down his office and return to his native land. Do we regret his departure? Why should we regret this? He has, with his own hands, lacerated our hearts. Lord Lytton is an orator and a poet, and is besides very courteous, but he does not possess any one of those qualifications which would make a ruler popular. He has charmed his hearers by his eloquent speeches, but of what good has that been to the numberless poor of this land? He is a poet, but his poetry has not affected the hearts of the people of this country. What have the public gained by his courtesy in private life? The administrative skill which conciliates the people he has not; he came out a puppet moved by Lord Beaconsfield, and is now going back after having played his part. Far from being happy under his rule, the people of India have been so harassed by him that it will be some time before they regain their normal condition of peace. On whichever side we cast our eyes we see this. There is not a single act of his administration which we can contemplate with pleasure. Men's actions are generally a compound of good and bad; but we are puzzled to discover any measure associated with Lord Lytton's name which might be commended. The character of his Indian administration may be inferred from the circumstance that it requires a patient investigation to discover if there is any merit in it. As a man, Lord Lytton may be possessed of a hundred qualifications, but India has not gained anything by them, and cannot therefore feel any regret at his retirement. She could only do so by sacrificing all feeling of self-respect, and by leading to the impression that a habit of abject flattery was still strong in her. What act of Lord Lytton's administration shall we refer to with pleasure? The Vernacular Press Act has destroyed all our spirit; it has imputed to us disloyalty and untrustworthiness. Truth to tell, we have no sympathy for the man who has painted us in such black colors. Of course respect for the Viceroy is quite a different matter, and the salute of guns is an official affair. The Arms Act is a monument of his fame, and will be long remembered in this country. It is needless to advert to the subject of the cotton-duties, the Civil Service, or the diversion of the Famine Fund to other than its legitimate purposes. His acts have made him so famous that he will be known in future even if no mention is made of them. In India his name is associated with many matters. If any one has been made happy by his actions, we do not desire to disturb his happiness. We shall merely say that, far from contributing to the happiness of the people of this country, he has destroyed it, and that few Viceroys have come to India so beneficently disposed (?) to it as he has been.

9. The appointment, says the same paper, of some other person in place of Sir John Strachey is the only measure which now remains to be adopted

Sir John Strachey.

BHARAT MIHIR.

respecting the reconstitution of the Indian Council. "As soon as the indications of a Liberal triumph led the friends of this country in England to make vigorous attacks upon the administration of the Indian finances, a budget was produced showing a surplus of revenue. Who else but Sir John Strachey deserves the thanks of the people of India? He alone deserves a bonus of Rs. 50,000. We cannot fathom the depths of British policy; the officer who commits wrong is promoted; he who sucks dry our life-blood obtains a reward. The only reward we can think of for Sir John Strachey is his resignation of office in favor of another."

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1880.

10. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 4th May:—"No other nation has ever made such large con-

The Native Army.

quests or deprived others of their wealth and kingdoms as the British, and yet retained its vitality like them. The British, too, would have been by this time reduced to degradation had it not been for the possession of one quality; this is that, in spite of their greed, they do not completely divest themselves of the knowledge of right and wrong. Hence it is that, while they set another's house on fire, a fear that the fire may spread to their own house also leads them to watch its course; and similarly, when killing a foe with a sharp weapon, they use it with caution. Before setting themselves to suck dry the resources of the people, they take care to ascertain through experts the extent to which the operation may be carried without actually causing the death of the patient. It is for this that occasionally in the midst of dire oppressions we hear the language of assurance uttered by honest and conscientious Englishmen. It is this which has brought about the unexpected overthrow of Lord Beaconsfield, and we believe it is for the same reason that the injustice which Government is inflicting on this country to the detriment of true interests of England is at times described in the columns of English newspapers." The writer then proceeds to make extracts from the article on the condition of the native army recently contributed to an English periodical by Sir John Adye, and remarks that the British Government need have no fears of any hostile risings against its authority from the loyal people of India. What the latter ask is that Government should be just and beneficently disposed towards them. If they are once convinced of this, there will be never any cause for fear.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

11. According to the same paper the decision of the Privy Council in the Hindu unchastity case threatens to interfere with the domestic happiness of the

The Hindu unchastity case.

Hindus, and to disturb the hope of spiritual benefit accruing from the chaste life of a widow. The mistaken but well-meant action of the British Government in the abolition of the practice of *Sati* has already introduced an element of laxity in the obligations of Hindu conjugal life, which the present decision will but intensify.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 4th, 1880.

12. The *Bardwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th May, notices several cases of highway robbery and burglary which

Dacoities in Bardwan.

took place in the Bardwan district during the month of Bysakh last. The local police is singularly inefficient; nay, there is reason to believe that the subordinate officers of the department are often, as in some of the recent cases, implicated in these cases. What is the District Superintendent about?

ARYA DARPAN,
May 7th, 1880.

13. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 7th May, contains a review of Lord Lytton's administration of India. The Editor

Lord Lytton.

enumerates all the chief public measures undertaken during his term of office. Prominent mention is made of the manner in which Lord Lytton's government dealt with the Madras famine

of the holding of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, the Vernacular Press and the Arms Acts, and the Afghan War. These are all condemned, and the Liberals are asked to repeal the Press and the Arms Acts, and release India from the burden of the Afghan War charges.

14. The *Prabháti*, of the 8th May, remarks that the time has now

The costs of the Afghan War.

come when the Liberals should endeavour to carry out in practice what they have preached

so long. The costs of the Afghan War should not be charged on the revenues of India. The war was undertaken in the interests of England, and she is, in justice, bound to pay for it. The argument advanced by Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey, that the financial independence of the Indian Government stands in the way of her asking for any aid from the English Exchequer, is simply fallacious. One could indeed understand it if India was really, in the matter of her finances, independent; but considering that in every thing she is dependent upon England, it is absurd to say that she cannot fairly ask the British Exchequer for aid. Were not the cotton-duties remitted under instructions from the authorities in England? Certainly the Government of India did not exercise any independent judgment in that matter. India is simply unable to bear the costs of the Afghan War; and it is to be hoped that the Liberals will relieve her of this burden.

PRABHATI,
May 8th, 1880.

15. The *Sulabha Samáchar*, of the 8th May, in noticing the corre-

The Calcutta Small Cause Court.

spondence which has recently taken place between Government and the Trades Associa-

tion, relative to the powers of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, takes the occasion to observe that the rapidity with which suits are generally disposed of by the Judges often frustrates the ends of justice. The average time devoted to a suit is not more than eight minutes. Even difficult cases are sometimes disposed of within half this time. Suits are not unfrequently struck off the file before the parties have had time to ascend the long flight of stairs attached to the courthouse. The attention of Government is directed to this matter in the hope that steps will be taken to rectify this state of matters. The number of Judges should be increased, and the value of suits cognizable by the Court extended to Rs. 2,000. This would lighten the work of the High Court to a considerable extent.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
May 8th, 1880.

16. Under a foreign Government, remarks the *Sádháraní*, foreign stuff is more valued than any native commodity.

The new police and the old.

The evils which this preference gives birth to are

now manifesting themselves in this country. There was the old police—an indigenous article. The darogah and others were mostly illiterate men on low pay who used to take bribes. They, however, did some work. The new police is an English-made article. The members wear uniform, are well-drilled, and know how to walk with measured steps. But the men are utterly worthless. They can neither prevent the commission of robberies nor detect the offenders or other bad characters. They have their parade, uniform, reports, diaries, forms, and warrants—all English; but the native detective power has disappeared. What wonder the police should be inefficient? Bardwan has now become a scene of robberies and burglaries, which the present ornamental police are utterly powerless to prevent.

SADHARANI,
May 9th, 1880.

17. The same paper contrasts the old and the new systems of govern-

The overwork of officials.

ment in this country. In ancient times there was a proper distribution of labor among officials, and

no single officer was required to perform a multitude of different duties. It is otherwise at the present time. Thus the common constable on Rs. 6 a month, as well as the Collector of a district on Rs. 2,250, are both overweighted

SADHARANI.

with work. Let us see what work is expected of a constable. He has to collect information regarding crops, &c., for Dr. Hunter; for Mr. Beverley he has to count the men in a village. He has to report if any breaches have been noticed in a road cess culvert; has to assist the license-tax assessor in seizing the husking machine of any defaulting assessee; has to act as Chain-man when the Engineer is out on a surveying trip. When the darogah is out on any tour of investigation, the constable has to groom his horse; and should he happen to be a Brahmin, has to cook the darogah's food. If the tent of his European superior has been pitched in the neighbourhood, the constable must get fowl for him. By day the poor fellow has to bring cattle to the pound, and by night to disturb the sleep of the inhabitants. He has to serve summonses upon witnesses, arrest defendants, give his evidence in a case, and identify articles. The poor fellow does not know what is or is not his duty. He does all and does not do anything. He is consequently unfit for his own proper work. The Collector, too, is expected to do a great deal of work which it is impossible for a single person to overtake. Government, however, it would seem, does not want work, but desires prestige, and the Collector maintains this prestige.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 9th, 1890.

18. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 9th May, asks Sir John Strachey to follow Lord Lytton into his retirement. Sir John

Sir John Strachey.

was the right hand of Lord Lytton, and with

him originated almost all the measures of the late administration. He has been a worthy (?) adviser to his master, and led the latter often into wrong. His skill as a financier has surprised the British nation. His power of reasoning was shown when he applied the proceeds of the license-tax for the prosecution of the Afghan War. For the disgrace on account of this war which has fastened itself upon Lord Lytton, Sir John Strachey is partially responsible. He was the chief adviser of Government in the matter of the remission of the cotton-duties. We believe that in the form of Sir John Strachey, Draco has re-appeared in this world. Sir John has not received any title in the course of this war, but has obtained a bonus of Rs. 50,000.

DACCA PRAKASH.

19. The same paper, in noticing the resignation of Lord Lytton, remarks that he was merely a tool in the hands of the late ministry. Reference is made

Lord Lytton.

to the chief measures of his administration which are condemned, with the exception of the Native Civil Service scheme.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 10th, 1890.

20. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 10th May, observes that the Lieutenant-Governor has conferred a great boon

The introduction of the Nagree character in Behar.

upon the people of Behar by directing the use of the Nagree character in that province

in preference to the Hindu. This will lead to a development of vernacular literature and promote national unity. It is to be desired that Sir Ashley Eden's action in this matter will be imitated by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces.

SOM PRAKASH.

21. The same paper, in noticing the recent resolution of Government

Government resolution on the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

on the settlement operations in Damin-i-koh, points out the injurious character of the policy of excluding foreigners from that tract of

country. While the Editor is aware of the reasons which may have induced Government to adopt this policy and of the advantages thereof, he is still of opinion that it is a retrograde policy worthy of the old Aryans who were opposed to sea-voyages. The Sonthals will not be able to make any substantial advancement, until they receive the benefit of intercourse with foreigners.

22. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 10th May, confesses to a feeling of disappointment at the discussions that are going on over the error discovered in the budget.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 10th, 1890.

The error in the budget.

"We were led to form high expectations from the budget that was presented by Sir John Strachey in February last. We thought there would be no additional taxation, and that useful public works would be constructed. But our hope has been blasted. There has been a serious error discovered. Was not this error due to a desire to throw dust into the eyes of the British public on the eve of the general elections? Was it not due to the same cause which led to the remission of the cotton-duties? It was but the other day that Lord Lytton replied defiantly to the strictures which had been passed by Mr. Gladstone and others on the Indian budget. What reply will he now make? But what about the bonus of Rs. 50,000 proposed to be given to Sir John Strachey? There is no objection to Lord Lytton's being made an earl; that will not cost anything. But India is simply unable to reward the financial skill of Sir John Strachey with the grant of a bonus. If he is to get a bonus, many others like Dr. Hunter, who have served the Tory Government with great zeal, are entitled to the same consideration."

23. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Sahachar*, of the 10th May, headed "Sir John Strachey's Budget:"—No one outside the

SAHACHAR,
May 10th, 1890.

Sir John Strachey.

Council chamber approved of the sentiments expressed by Lord Lytton and his Finance Minister when the budget was presented to the Council. It was framed with a view to mislead the British public on the eve of a general election, and received commendation only from a few hirelings of the press like Dr. Hunter. Both Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey replied sneeringly to Mr. Gladstone's criticisms on the financial condition of the Indian Government. A serious error has now been discovered in the budget, and it is for the public to judge whether the error was intentionally made. Even the Tories have now thrown Sir John overboard. The *Standard* urges his instant recall. Sir John has used his undoubted talents only to please his superiors, and in so doing has not hesitated to sacrifice the interests of the public. Punishment has now overtaken him.

LOCAL.

24. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 10th May, directs the attention of the Road Cess Committee of the

SOM PRAKASH,
May 10th, 1890.

Roads in Báoyálí.

24-Pergunnahs to the wretched condition of roads leading to Báoyálí, a flourishing village about eighteen miles to the south-west of Calcutta. The two roads, one from Bákrá, and the other from Bajbaj to Báoyálí, should be remetalled and the cost paid from the funds of the Road Cess.

MISCELLANEOUS.

25. We have this week received the first four numbers of a new weekly published at Commillah under the title of *Tripurá Vartavaha*. We shall notice the

TRIPURA VARTAVAHA.

A new paper.

contents in our next report.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 15th May 1890.

